

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s).

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1 (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:
2 a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at
3 least one welding region formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the welding
4 region formed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor defined by an area where
5 insulating material is removed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor;
6 at least one conductive pad within the welding region, the conductive pad electrically
7 connected to the at least one conductor; and
8 a band welded to the conductive pad at within the welding region to electrically connect the
9 band to the at least one conductor.

1 2. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the welding region comprises a groove
2 cut in the insulator.

1 3. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 2, wherein the groove runs parallel to the
2 at least one conductor.

1 4. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the conductive pad is
2 electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the group consisting
3 of welding, conductive adhesives; and crimping.

1 5. (Previously Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the conductive pad comprises
2 a metal selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum, gold, silver, copper
3 and vanadium.

1 6. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the band is selected from the group
2 consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

1 7. (Previously Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the band further comprises
2 a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall
3 from an outer surface of the lead body.

1 8. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 7, wherein at least three projections are positioned
2 around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:
2 a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at
3 least one welding region,
4 at least one elongated conductive element having a distal end and a proximal end, the
5 proximal end electrically connected to the at least one conductor within the welding region; and
6 a band welded to the distal end of the elongated conductive element to electrically connect
7 the band to the at least one conductor.

1 10. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the welding region comprises a groove cut
2 in the insulator.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 10, wherein the groove runs parallel to
2 the at least one conductor.

1 12. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive element is
2 selected from the group consisting of wire, ribbon wire, and cable.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive
2 element is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the
3 group consisting of welding, crimping and conductive adhesives.

1 14. (Previously Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive
2 ~~band further comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum,~~
3 gold, silver, copper and vanadium.

C 1 15. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the band is selected from the group
2 consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

1 16. (Previously Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the band further comprises
2 a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall
3 from an outer surface of the lead body.

1 17. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 16, wherein at least three projections are
2 positioned around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

18. - 29. (Withdrawn)

1 30. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:
2 a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at
3 least one welding region defined by a groove formed in the insulator to expose at least a portion of
4 the at least one conductor;
5 at least one conductive pad within the welding region, the conductive pad electrically
6 connected to the at least one conductor; and
7 a band welded to the conductive pad at within the welding region to electrically connect the
8 band to the at least one conductor.

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concluded*

1 31. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 31, wherein the groove runs parallel to
2 the at least one conductor.

1 32. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, as in Claim 31, wherein the conductive pad is
2 electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the group consisting
3 of welding, conductive adhesives; and crimping.